



THE TOKEN HUNTER

A Publication of the

National Utah Token Society

Vol. 8, No. 7
July, 1989



Dedicated to Collecting, Recording, and Preserving Medals and Tokens

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Next Meeting

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
30	31					1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

Raffle

Promptness - 1934-D Walker

Annex X / 10 cent (SLC)
Eureka Mt and Prod, Eureka Ut/50 cent
C.E.S. Co. No. 1, Hiawatha/1 expldr
Heber Merc., Heber, Ut/5 cent
J. David Leigh, Cedar City, Ut/25 cent
F. Anselmo & Co./10 cent (Columbia)
Dos Pesos Mexican Gold

Next Meeting

The next club meeting will be held on Thursday, July 27, at the Redwood Multi Purpose Center on 3100 South Redwood Road. The speaker will be Ruth Mathews, Grantsville Museum curator and DUP member. She will speak on the Donnor party wagon train. You won't want to miss this meeting.

Token Hunter Notes

This issue is being sent early to remind all of our treasure hunters of this month's July 24 weekend dig to the Mohrland area. The dig starts July 22. There is more information on it elsewhere in this newsletter.

Coin/Token Show Notes

Many thanks to all club members who helped with the 5th annual NUTS sponsored Coin and Token Show. The show was our most successful one yet. We sold table space to 25 dealers (and could have sold more), had a number of nice displays, signed up some new members, had a few good Utah tokens change hands, and put some needed funds into the NUTS kitty. Special thanks go to those who helped with set-up, take down, the hospitality table, etc., and to

exhibitors: Erin Allred, Kelsey Allred, Jay Edwards, Eric Jameson, Lance Johnson, Don Keener, Greg Manos, Irv Ratcliff, and Jim Richins. Lance Johnson's Montana-oriented display was judged best of show and won the people's choice award. Thanks, again, for all your help.

Bob

NUTS Medals for 1989

Club medals will be available at the July meeting at a price to club members of \$3.60 for bronze or \$13.00 for silver, if a person buys 5 bronze medals (only 10 silver medals have been struck so far). Club members can also pre-order medals at these prices, and not have to buy 5 bronze to get a silver piece. Medals will be available to non-NUTS members at higher prices than those quoted above. More details will be provided at the meeting.

American Numismatic Association Membership

For those of you who may be new club members or who may not know me my name is George Wilson. I am past president and member of the board of trustees for the NUTS (Editor's note: Is there anyone who doesn't know Uncle George?). This year I have taken on a new task as American Numismatic Association (ANA) representative for NUTS.

I thought perhaps I would give you some historical background on the ANA, outline some of the benefits of membership, answer some of the questions you may have, and perhaps persuade some of you to join ANA.

The ANA had its beginnings in the Autumn of 1888 with the publication of a four page leaflet entitled "The American Numismatist." This publication was the brainchild of Dr. George F. Heath of Monroe, Michigan and was an outgrowth of Dr. Heath's coin business.

In the second issue the title had been shortened to "The Numismatist." advertisements were being accepted, and services such as identifying unknown coins were being offered. In the Nov./Dec. issue in an essay entitled "Numismatics" Dr. Heath made a statement which reflected his feelings about his hobby. He wrote, "The science of coins and medals is as old as antiquity itself. There is probably no other branch of collecting so ancient and honorable, or that has received the attention of students of all ages as that of coin collecting." By 1891 Dr. Heath had expanded his publication to 12 issues per year. In the February 1891 issue Dr. Heath made a proposal that would have far reaching implications: "what's the matter of having an American Numismatic Association? ALL in favor of such a scheme, send in your names." And, so, George F. Heath became the founder of the ANA.

Since that time the ANA has grown in size and stature. In fact, by 1912 the ANA had grown to such prominence that it was

granted a charter by an act of Congress, making it one of only 2 organizations so chartered. That charter reads, in part:

"The primary activities of the Association are to advance the knowledge of numismatics along educational lines in all its various branches, to assist in bringing about better cooperation between all persons interested in the coinage, circulation, classification, collecting, sales, exhibition, use, and preservation of all coins, bills, and medals; to acquire and disseminate trustworthy information bearing upon those topics; to promote greater popular interest in the science of numismatics, and for the particular purpose of bringing the numismatists of America into closer relations with one another."

As ANA prepares to enter its second century, this commitment still holds true.

Today, the ANA boasts over 32,000 members in the United States and around the world, making it the largest association of its kind in the world. The Numismatist now averages about 258 pages each month, with articles on many different areas of numismatics. Two ANA conventions are held each year. Many of you will remember the Mid-Winter convention held in SLC in February of 1986 which was attended by over 150 coin dealers and over 16,000 visitors. The National Utah Token Society was the co-sponsor of this convention.

Another benefit of ANA membership is the ANA museum which is located along with the National Headquarters in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Members are welcome to view its displays and members may examine any of its extensive collections of coins, tokens, medals, and paper money.

The ANA maintains the largest circulating numismatic library in the world. It consists of over 10,000 books and more than 20,000 periodicals, most of which are available to members without charge other than postage and insurance. Other advantages include health insurance, collection insurance, awards, seminars, and special programs for young numismatists.

The NUTS club has been an ANA member since 1984 and has enjoyed several advantages of membership, such as special awards, slide presentations, and such. The ANA has made a commitment to keeping open the lines of communication between the national organization and the grass roots collectors. As ANA representative for NUTS I encourage you to give me any questions and comments that will help make ANA better. I try to attend as many NUTS meetings as possible and I will bring with me ANA information most of the time. I'm sure you would enjoy membership in the ANA.

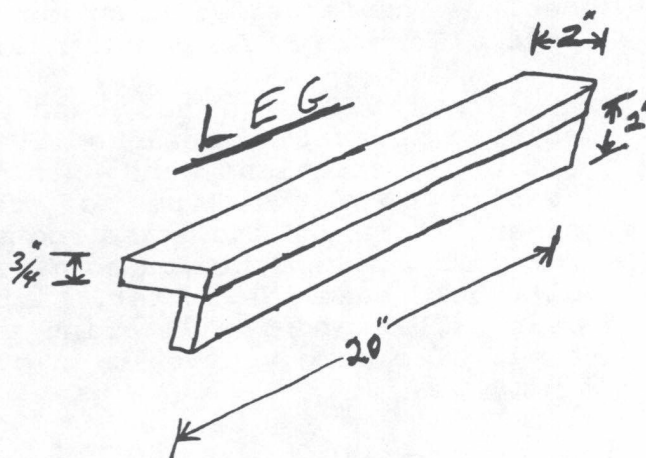
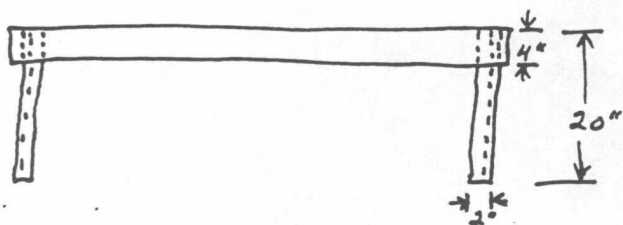
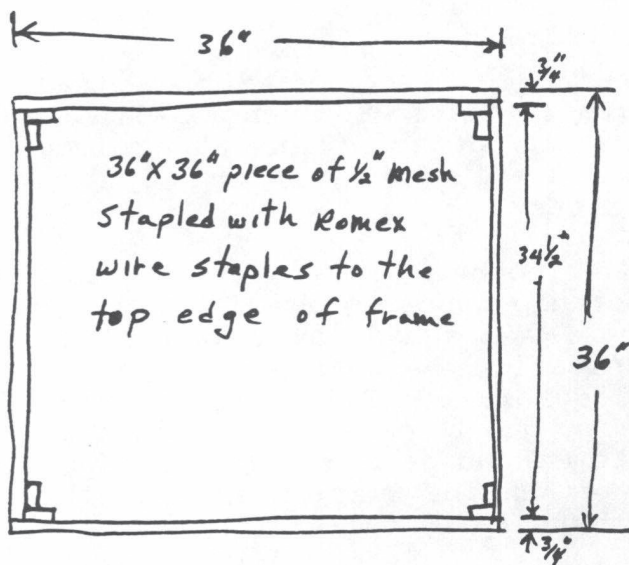
(Uncle) George

Artifact Screen

A screen for searching old dumps or outhouses can be made of scrap lumber, aluminum channel, or anything that is available. An inexpensive one can be assembled with scrap lumber by cutting 4" strips of 1" pine into 34 1/2" and 36" lengths. When nailed together as a box frame, the outside dimension is 36" X 36". A piece of 1/2" mesh wire 36" X 36" is then stapled with Romex wire staples to the box frame. If legs are desired for your screen, cut 8 pieces of 1" pine into 2" strips (or use furring strips) by 20" long. The length depends on how high you want the screen off the ground. Assemble the legs by nailing two pieces together, the flat side of one on the edge of the other. After assembling the four legs this way, nail them to the inside of the four corners of the screen frame. Using wood glue when assembling your screen will extend its life. For additional strength use wood screws in addition to or rather than nails. The cost of materials for your completed screen should be between \$10.00 and \$20.00 depending on the materials you use.

Byron

(Editor's Note: Too bad more club members weren't at the last meeting to see Bill Turpela's great screen-gathered artifacts. In addition to a grundle of great tokens (we're talking high grade stuff, not junk) and coins, Bill and Larry James have found lots of toys, bottle stoppers, railroad nails and other kinds of hardware, and lots of other stuff (including one critter that I know they hope not to find again)).



FROM THE PRESIDENT

This year's coin and token show was really a success according to all the comments from the coin dealers and visitors that I talked to at the show. Show Chairman, Bob Campbell and everyone involved in putting the show together deserve a big "THANK YOU" for a job well done. The exhibits by the club members were great too. Participation by all the members and sharing their interests adds to the spirit and quality of the club.

This month's guest speaker is Mrs. Ruth Matthews, the curator of the Grantsville Museum. Her subject will be the "Donner Party Wagon Train" which traveled through Utah on the way to California. Mrs. Matthews is a retired school teacher and I was one of her students at Grantsville Elementary School. She is a member of the Daughters of Utah Pioneers. The DUP is updating their book "History of Tooele County". Mrs. Matthews has been busy working on the updating of that book. As the museum curator she is custodian of the artifacts found near Grantsville and out on the salt flats along the Donner Party trail.

Last month Bill Turpela brought his screening equipment to the club meeting along with some of his finds. Different types of screens, how to build them, what types of shovels, and what methods of removing the dirt from the screens were demonstrated and discussed. Bill's treasures had everyone asking questions. Thanks Bill for the participation.

As you all know from last month's Token Hunter, Harry Campbell tendered his resignation as the NUTS President. In accordance with our club by-laws the Vice-President fills the President's vacant position. This leaves the Vice-President's position vacant. We would like to fill that position. Anyone interested in serving as the Vice-President should contact myself or one of the other officers.

August is the month for the club picnic. Fairmont Park (2250 South 900 East) is the site and 7-9 p.m. is the time. More about this at the July meeting.

BYRON

Bill's Bull

First, I would like to say a big thank you to those who helped me with my little part of the show. From what I've heard, the show was a great success. We keep getting bigger and better at the things the club is doing. Way to go gang!

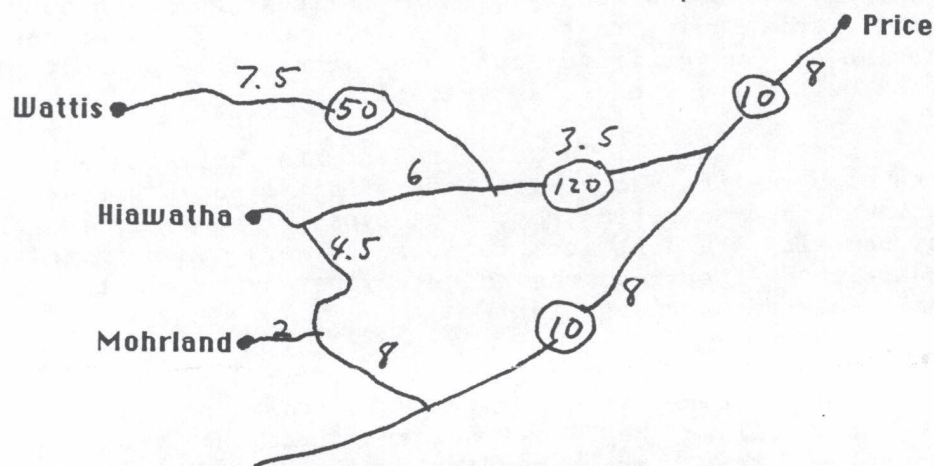
I've not a lot of news regarding what's been going on in the detecting world. We do have a dig coming up on the 24th of July weekend. I'm sure that the wagon masters are making plans for it and should have something in this Token Hunter about the trip. I've been out a few times lately (or Larry and I have, I should say), and picked up a few coins and tokens, some good and some only average (to us, they're all good finds). Until meeting night, take care and happy hunting.

Bill

TRIP TO MOHRLAND

July 22-23-24

July will be the time for another expedition into the coal camps of Carbon and Emery counties. We will be detecting in the camps of Mohrland, Hiawatha, and Wattis. All the N.U.T.S will be leaving the Redwood Multipurpose Center at 8:45 A.M. on Sat. July 22, and then driving down to Mohrland to set up our camp sites. Besides Mohrland, we will detect Wattis and Hiawatha. As this is a 3 day weekend, we expect that some of the more adventurous souls will camp out overnight, so bring your bug spray and water coolers and enjoy the trip. P.S. because of the fire danger, no fireworks please.



The Coal Camps

The coal camps got their start in 1877 with the opening of the first coal mine near the present town of Scofield. **Mohrland** had it's inception in 1906 with the discovery of the coal deposits, and the town was surveyed in 1909 after the United States Fuel Co. had taken over the mines. In 1910 the Uth Railroad had entered the town. By 1922 the town had over 1,000 residents, but by 1938 the mines were closed and the town was torn down and the houses were sold and moved away. Only foundations remain to mark the site. **Hiawatha** was formed in 1909 with the building of the railroad to the mines on Gentry Mountain. By 1911 it had 500 people. In the decade of the 1940's, the population reached 1,500, but has since declined to less than 100 people. **Wattis**, to the north of Hiawatha, was the last to form, with the mines opening in 1916. While the coal mine is still active, the town has been abandoned and most of the buildings torn down or moved. While some of the buildings are still remaining, they have been posted on the demand of the lawyers (boo, hiss).

Taken from

SOME DREAMS DIE

UTAH'S GHOST TOWNS AND LOST TREASURES

BY GEORGE A. THOMPSON

MOHRLAND & THE EMERY PAYROLL CACHE

Emery County's ghost town of Mohrland can be reached by going south from Price to U-122 and following it to Hiawatha. Before the comeback of coal, Price was almost a ghost town itself. From Hiawatha a dirt road leads west for 5 miles to a fork. The right fork leads up canyon 1 mile to the old townsite. When coal was discovered in 1906, miners began a rush for the new strike. Many sent for their families and by 1909 a townsite had been surveyed. The new town was named for the first letter in the names of its four leading promoters: Mays, Orem, Heiner and Rice, to form M-O-H-R-land.

Mohrland soon sported a fine business district, including a new hospital, doctor's office, company boarding house and many new homes. Errol Charles- trom ran the Wasatch Store, a post office was built and several saloons made their appearance. By 1922 Mohrland's population exceeded 1,000, and to serve the growing town, a hotel, theatre, an amusement hall and more than 200 new houses were built. Like many mining camps, Mohrland was divided into several sections where the different nationalities lived. At Mohrland they were called Knob Hill, Centerville and Tiptle-town. Although it was located at the edge of the desert, Mohrland was not an unpleasant place, for trees shaded its streets and lined the canyon bottom where a small snow-fed stream splashed its way to the dry sandy washes below.

The early 1920's were Mohrland's most prosperous years. Profits began eluding mine owners after that. On March 1st, 1925 Mohrland's mines were closed without notice, leaving a town full of miners without jobs and the wives with no credit at the company store. By summer the town was deserted. After it was abandoned, many of Mohrland's frame buildings were moved to other locations, but its solid rock business houses were left to time and the elements. Today little is left but broken stone walls and foundations half hidden in the head high sage. You may not see any ghosts, but watch out for rattlesnakes!

Some of the first settlers at Mohrland came from Emery, a few miles to the south. Mohrland and Emery were on the old Owlhoot Trail used by long riders like the Wild Bunch, and one day three toughs who had been hanging around Mohrland rode into Emery and started a local legend of buried outlaw gold that is still told today. As the old-timer who told me the tale said, "I can not say how true it may be, I only can tell the tale as it was told to me!"

The old-timer said that back when Mohrland and Emery were busy places a mine payroll was placed in a store safe at Emery, since the town had no bank. But the payroll wasn't there long, for it had hardly been locked up when three toughs rode into town, forced the store keeper to surrender the gold, and raced out of town without a shot being fired. A quickly organized posse followed the outlaws south across the San Rafael Desert and into the canyon of the Dirty Devil River.

After several days of hard riding the posse and the outlaws came face to face in a narrow canyon. In the confusion dozens of shots were fired, and when the smoke cleared, two of the outlaws were dead. The third was badly wounded, and was later sent to prison where he died, but not before writing a letter to his sister. He told her that after the robbery, while the posse was still hot on their trail, they came upon an old cabin hidden in a side canyon joining the Dirty Devil River. Knowing they might be caught any minute, they pulled up a cedar post from a corral by the cabin and dropped the gold into the hole, replacing the post as it had been.

For several years the outlaw's sister came from California and searched the desert country south of Mohrland and Emery, trying to find the old cabin, but she finally had to admit that the country was too big and the cabin too small. Before returning to California she told several people who had helped her about the cache, but none of them had any better luck than she. If you plan to look for the Emery payroll cache, you'll have to find an old cabin in a side canyon not far from the Dirty Devil River. And in the San Rafael country, that's a mighty big order!



Dream Garden Press
Great Salt Lake City

THE FT. DUCHESNE BUFFALO CHIP TOKEN

Ft. Duchesne, Utah, is located on U.S. highway 40 in the east-central part of the state and serves as a central point for the Ute Indian Tribe, having originally served as a military post in the Old West. Nearby lies Bottle Hollow, a motel/restaurant/resort that lies on the Ute Reservation and is/was operated by the Ute Tribe. Bottle Hollow derives its name from the days when the soldiers would go off the fort for a period of merry-making and toss away their spent liquor bottles before returning to the post. Though generally hunted-out, Bottle Hollow was at one time an excellent dig for bottle and glass collectors.

The resort has had an on-again-off-again history. In 1979 the Tribe commissioned plans to turn their Bottle Hollow Resort into an Old West theme park to be called "Buffalo Run." The BUFFALO CHIP tokens were to be used as "legal tender" within the park for admission to rides and attractions. Many preparations were made: construction began; authentic stage coaches, horses and the like were purchased; concessionaires were contracted; a promotional video was made and the Grand Opening was scheduled and actually held.

The response was generally disappointing and the concept of Buffalo Run was soon abandoned. Bottle Hollow remained a sleepy resort that was later closed -- also for lack of business. Periodic attempts to revive it still come and go. Tourists still regularly visit the area, but one would be well-advised to check whether the resort is currently operating before making plans requiring lodging in the area. Nearby towns with lodging facilities are Roosevelt, to the West and Vernal (Dinosaurland) to the East.

We hope you enjoy your BUFFALO CHIP and that it fills a unique place in your coin/token collection. We welcome any comments. We also have a limited number of gold-plated CHIPS available at \$15.00 each, post-paid. These were to be sold as souvenirs, rather than to be used as ride tokens.

Please direct all correspondence to "Buffalo Chip," P.O. Box 58195, Salt Lake City, UT 84158.

J. Scott Iverson
Writer and Amateur Historian

WANTED

UTAH TRADE TOKEN COLLECTORS

Do you collect coins, currency, checks, stock certificates, or other exchange media? Did you know that many Utah merchants issued their own "coins" (trade tokens)? Did you know that these tokens circulated in at least 250 Utah towns (probably many more)? Did you know that these tokens were good for everything from 5 cents in merchandise, to a cigar, a glass of whiskey, a stick of dynamite, a Sunday newspaper, or a lumber camp meal?

Are you interested in history? Does Utah's mining boom tickle your fancy? What of her ghost towns? How about the Mormon cooperative movement or the nostalgia and mistique of the old western saloon? Are you fascinated by militaria, ethnology, transportation history, or the story of a number of other business types? If you answer "yes" to any of these questions there are Utah trade tokens for you.

Do you love rare old stuff? Most U.S. coins, for example, are considered rare when "only" a few thousand examples of a particular date/mint mark have survived. No Utah trade tokens were minted in quantities that large. Such tokens are considered rare when a tiny handful exist. Indeed, there are many "one of a kind" ultimate rarities when it comes to such tokens.

Do you enjoy the "thrill of the hunt?" Trade tokens may show up anywhere: under the coils of a metal detector, at an antique show or flea market, or in that old cigar box Grandpa used for his smaller tools. The search can be exhilarating; the find even better.

Are you emotionally tied to Utah, or to a certain part of the state? Does the thought of any collectible from Pine Valley or Paradise or Sunshine or Kamas conjure in your mind special emotions or feelings? Many Utah token collectors concentrate on trade tokens from a town, group of towns, county, mining district, or other region of the state.

If you metal-detect, bottle-dig, or relic-hunt, you are in a better position than almost anyone to find and collect Utah trade tokens.

more information



Do you enjoy comradery with a club or group? Did you know that one of Utah's "coin clubs" has been organized by and for Utah trade token enthusiasts?

Are you more interested in a hobby if there is a catalog and/or price guide to help the beginner find his way? Did you know that there is a Utah trade token encyclopedia (now in its third edition) and a complete Utah trade token town list for your persual and instruction?

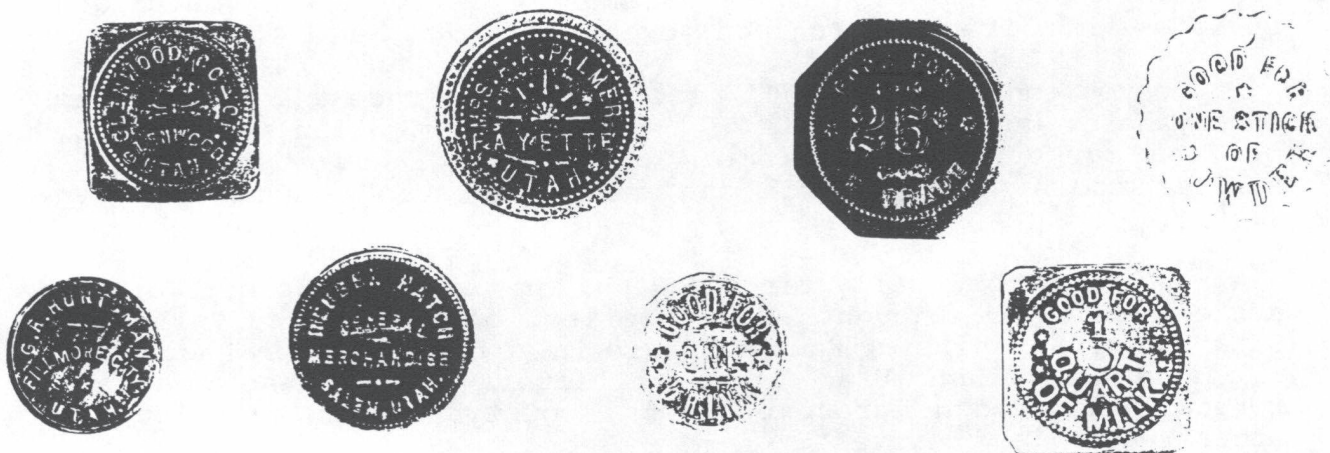
Do you like collectibles which are easy to store? Utah trade tokens fit in standard 2"x2"s, then standard 2"x2" plastic pages or storage boxes.

Do you like a collectible with investment potential? Demand is strong and prices for Utah trade tokens have eased upward, particularly for better pieces. While nobody collects trade tokens to get rich, discriminating collectors can hope to lose no money over time, and maybe make a little. Who knows what the infusion of a few dozen new collectors into the market would do to token values? And, each new collector opens new doors to new tokens that would otherwise be unavailable.

Utah trade tokens are rare, wonderful, exciting, sometimes elusive, bits of history with a local flavor and a charm of their own. Their pursuit can be emotionally charged, as collectors vie for the best examples, but also very rewarding. What other collectible can offer such history in such a small space?

For this, and other reaseons, you can see why we say: Good Hunting!! Collecting Utah trade tokens may be a hobby for you!

The National Utah Token Society



WARNING: COLLECTING TRADE TOKENS CAN BE HABIT FORMING. CONSULT WITH FRIENDS AND LOVED ONES BEFORE YOU START.

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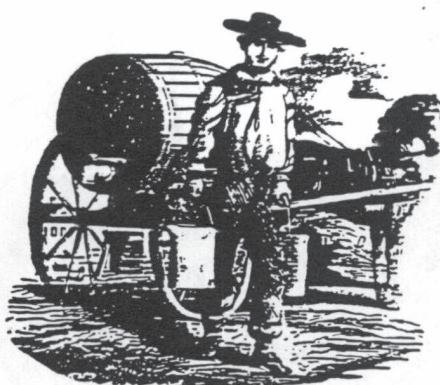
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SEPTEMBER 2&3, 1989

OMAHA, NEBRASKA

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